

FIND DISEASE AND DEATH IN CITY SCHOOLS

Filth and Fire Menaces Shown by Health and Charities Probers

REPORTS ARE SUBMITTED

Danger to Life and Limb Lurking in Schoolhouses

1. Fire escape at the William Penn High School annex is dangerously steep.
2. Coal gas escapes in the classrooms of the Martin annex.
3. Railing is defective on the fire escape at the Clay School.
4. Scholars must study with the sun in their eyes at the Joseph Brown School.
5. Fumes of chemicals fill the air at the Frankford High School.
6. Gas fixtures leak in the McKinley School.

Thousands of small children are being subjected to danger from fire in the public school buildings of Philadelphia, according to reports made following an investigation conducted by the Department of Health and Charities.

Every building in the city was visited by a corps of school medical inspectors under the direction of Dr. Walter S. Cornell, and the reports were made simultaneously to the Mayor and the Board of Education. One report discloses how hundreds of girls in the north building of the annex of the William Penn High School at Indiana avenue and D street are housed in a structure the fire escape of which is so steep that it might "give rise to trouble in case of emergency."

Similar words of warning are used in discussing the George L. Webster School, Frankford avenue and G street, where the children are younger by many years than those enrolled in the high school annex. The report on the Webster School refers to the possibility of a "jam in the fire tower."

COAL GAS IN ROOM

Numerous other defects are pointed out in the reports. One of the violations concerns the heating system at the Martin annex, Salmon and Somerset streets. A coal stove has been placed in each room there, and as a result, the pupils are forced to breathe coal gas. This discovery was made by Dr. Charles E. Cramp, a medical inspector, and his charge was verified by Dr. Bernard Kohn, supervising medical inspector, who indorsed the report.

The railing on the fire-escape at the second floor of the Henry Clay School, Eighth and Thompson streets, was found to be in need of repair. Surprisingly insanitary conditions were discovered in the teachers' retiring rooms of many of the elementary schoolhouses. These conditions are not only of a revolting nature, but are shown to exist in direct defiance of the law.

Among the conditions to which the medical inspectors made objection were leaky gas fixtures, improper ventilation and overcrowding of desks. The defects and faults were not confined to any particular section of the city, but were found in widely scattered neighborhoods. A summary of the reports, however, makes it clear that the improper accommodations do not exist in every school, but that, on the contrary, there are many schools where a single defect could not be found.

At the headquarters of the Board of Education it was said that the troubles were such that they could not be removed. No tax rate, however high it was explained, would ever provide sufficient funds to make the school system physically perfect.

OLD BUILDINGS BLAMED

The majority of the schools where the objectionable conditions were discovered are of the older type, and many of the buildings are so constructed that they cannot now be remodelled.

Statements on some of the schools described the buildings as "excellent." At the Lawton School, Benner and Ditman streets, for instance, the inspector was unable to find any possibility for improvement. Conditions were the same at the Longfellow, Tacony and Prait streets; McKean, Eighty-second street and Tintum avenue; George L. Horn, Frankford and Erie avenues, and the T. C. Morton, Sixty-third street and Elmwood avenue.

Boys, it was announced, are obliged to drink dirty water at an annex of the Northeast High School at Fourth street below Lehigh avenue. The drinking water is contained in a tank there. A screen is used to cover the tank, and although it serves to prevent balls and other objects thrown by the students from falling into the water, it fails to exclude from the water the dust drawn from the atmosphere. Children at the Joseph Brown School, in Holmesburg, must study with the sunlight in their eyes. This is due to the fact that a blackboard has been placed between two windows in such a position that the light falls directly into the youngsters' faces. The report on this school adds that the blackboard could be conveniently placed on the opposite wall.

Complaint is made that when the chemical laboratory is in use at the Frankford High School, Oxford pike and Wakeling street, the fumes spread throughout the building. Leaky gas fixtures were discovered in the McKinley School, Lawrence street and Susquehanna avenue. The latter institution was considered one of the



GEORGE STEPTOE WASHINGTON
Great-great-grandnephew of the "Father of Our Country." He is attending the birthday celebration of the first President at the Historical Society. He is a member of the firm of Kames and Washington, merchandise brokers, this city.

best equipped schoolhouses in the city about a decade ago.

The Rutledge School, at Seventh and Norris streets, an "old offender," is the subject of another indictment. This school has been repeatedly condemned as too small and too old for parents of pupils as well as members of the Board of Education. The report of the medical inspectors shows, as do reports in past years, that the building is poorly ventilated and that the yard is too small.

The inspection of all schoolhouses by the Department of Health and Charities is required annually under the school code of the state. The medical inspectors are required to report every defect.

USES LIVER SERUM AS TUBERCULOSIS CURE

University of California Doctor Declares Antitoxin Is Successful on Animals

BERKELEY, Cal., Feb. 22.—Successful experiments in the cure of tuberculosis in animals and the prospect for similar results in the treatment of human beings with a newly discovered antitoxin will be announced by the University of California within a few days in a bulletin by Dr. Frederick P. Gay, head of the department of pathology, Dr. M. Takeoka, of San Francisco, a member of the staff of the medical school of the university, has succeeded in isolating a secretion of the liver which, according to his announcement made to a seminary last week, has effected complete cures in the cases of guinea pigs at the point of death from tuberculosis.

The effect of the inoculation of the tubercular guinea pig with the secretion, which is called tauren, has been noted by Doctor Gay and others. Dr. Edward Von Adeling, of Oakland, will continue the experiments and note the effect upon human beings. Doctor Takeoka succeeded in isolating the antitoxin when working on the theory that the liver must secrete its own antitoxin to the germ of tuberculosis, inasmuch as it is the only organ unaffected when all others are tubercular.

Doctor Takeoka says his best results have been obtained from huren obtained from the livers of molluscs. Philadelphia physicians who specialize in tuberculosis, when shown the foregoing dispatch, said that since the secretion which tuberculosis attacks the liver, the report from Berkeley seemed to be "founded in error" and that "something must have been misconstrued"; also that it is most unusual for the medical school of the University of California to give advance information of bulletins, as discoveries were guarded and such announcements issued only over the signature of the head of the school.

SAILORS GET NO BOUNTY FOR SINKING TRANSPORT

British Court Rules That Prize Money Is Payable for Destroying Fighting Units Only

LONDON, Feb. 22.—The prize court has disallowed the application of the crew of the British submarine E-14 for prize bounty for sinking the Turkish steamship Gulgamal, which was carrying 6000 soldiers. The court ruled that bounty was payable only for sinking an armed ship, which might be regarded as an actual fighting unit and that the evidence failed to show that the transport in question was such a ship. A special provision was made, however, to cover the case if at any time further evidence was forthcoming that the transport was a fighting ship.

The E-14 penetrated the Sea of Marmora at the time of the British operations at the Dardanelles and sank two Turkish gunboats and a transport, the name of which was not disclosed, in May, 1915. The British Admiralty decorated the crew for its exploit. The transport referred to probably was the Turkish steamship Gul Djenal, 5071 tons gross.

LIED? SURE AND HE LIED, AVERS G. WASHINGTON

All a Myth About Cherry Tree, Says Woodbury Kin of First President

George Washington doesn't believe the cherry-tree story. He says that it is a harmless little yarn that has done a great deal of good. He advocates that teachers and parents continue to tell the story. George Washington told an EVENING LEADER reporter that he "took no stock" in the report that the father of our country never told a lie. "Alas! Alack! Tradition—Bloie."

"Probably too clever to be caught telling a lie," explained George Washington. "He was too human to have never told a lie. Washington's great strength lay in the fact that he was a human."

George Washington today is attending the celebration of the anniversary of the birth of George Washington with the New Jersey Sons of the Revolution at Trenton, N. J. He can be found at the "Old Barracks," George, or to be more exact, George Lafayette Washington, lives in Woodbury, N. J. He is a bank clerk and the son of H. Washington of Woodbury. Mr. George Washington is a descendant of the family of Colonel "Sam" and Colonel John Washington, brothers to the "Father of our Country." George L. Washington is a great-great-grandnephew of the first President. When interviewed Woodbury's George Washington said:

"My mother used to tell the story about the cherry tree when I was a little boy and sought the comforts of her knee. I thought it was a grand story, but now I regard it as a myth. However, it is a good thing, this harmless little yarn, and it has done great moral good. Like the Santa Claus story, it should be continued."

"OF COURSE HE LIED"

"Neither do I believe that Uncle George never told a lie. He was too human. In his human traits lay his great strength."

There is another George Washington, and he is in Philadelphia today attending the celebration given by the Pennsylvania Sons of the Revolution at the Historical Society. He is George Steptoe Washington, a member of the firm of Kames & Washington, merchandise brokers of this city. Mr. G. S. Washington now lives at Riverside, but made his home in Philadelphia for many years.

He is a great-great-grandnephew of the first President and is an uncle to George L. Washington, of Woodbury. Mr. George Steptoe Washington has two sons, William De Herburn Washington, named for the old Norman knight, William De Herburn, whose blood was intermingled with that of the Washingtons in the century that followed the Norman conquest, and Howard Alexander Washington.

Although few of the members of the Washington family have figured in military affairs since the days of the Revolution, the spirit of loyalty and readiness to uphold the principles of the country, even by force if necessary, remains intact with them.

George L. Washington, of Woodbury, like his illustrious three-times great-uncle, says that he believes in war as the last recourse for the settlement of great moral issues and expressed that belief relative to the present crisis that the United States is facing with Germany. In event of war, he said he was ready to volunteer.

"I trust that President Wilson can avert war," he said. "War should be the last

means to settle the issue. But if all measures fail and the President and Congress see the necessity of war I will certainly volunteer."

Much of the same attitude is maintained by George Steptoe Washington, while his son Howard is anxious to join the navy. It has been the ambition of the young man for some time to become a real sea-fighter for his country.

Three grandnieces of the first President live in Philadelphia. They are Mrs. Anne Washington Naulty, Miss Martha Fisher Washington and Miss Elizabeth Fisher Washington, three sisters, who make their home at 214 South Forty-third street. Along with the 100,000 countrymen they will celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the "Father of our country," but in an extremely quiet manner, as they are now in mourning for the recent death of Miss Margaretta Washington, a sister. Mrs. Naulty was reared in the South, where there are many more members of the Washington family than have found their way North. Her home was at Harewood, the old estate which belonged to Colonel "Sam" Washington, where the colonel's mansion still stands.

Her sister, Elizabeth Fisher Washington, is a painter of portraits, landscapes and miniatures. At the recent exhibit at the Academy of the Fine Arts one of her paintings won for her the Mayor Smith prize. At the present time she has a painting on exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery, Washington.

OTHER DESCENDANTS
Another relative of the first President is Miss Elizabeth Crawford Washington, who lives at the Lincoln, 1223 Locust street. Her great-great-grandfather was a cousin to George Washington and her great-great-great-grandfather was the grandfather of the first President. Miss Washington is celebrating the day in a quiet manner at her apartments.

There is a Miss Rebecca Washington, also

The St. James

THE DARK ROOM
A FAIRYLAND OF DIM LIGHTS and SOFT MUSIC
OPENS ON WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY NIGHT

WALNUT AT 13th STREET

Mawson & DeMany

1115 Chestnut Street
(Opposite Keith's)

Final Fur Coat Clearance

At One-Half-Off to Close Out Remainder of Broken Lots

58 Fur Coat Specials For Friday

(9) Pony Skin	24.50
(8) French Seal	32.50
(12) Nat'l Muskrat	48.50
(4) Hudson Seal	55.00
(5) Hudson Seal	67.50
(6) Hudson Seal	84.50
(5) Hudson Seal	115.00
(8) Hudson Seal	135.00
(1) Mole Skin	162.50

Of Great Importance
Purchases Will Be Reserved in Our Storage Vaults Until Next Fall on Payment of a Deposit. Payments to Be Continued During the Spring and Summer.

a member of the Washington family, who lives at the Clinton Apartments, Tenth and Clinton streets.

Although George Washington, the first President, was childless, the descendants of his brothers and sisters are numbered by the hundreds in the United States. The larger portion of them make their home in the South and in the West.

Since the previous anniversary of the birth of Washington two of his descendants who lived in Philadelphia have died. They are Miss Margaretta Washington, sister of Mrs. Naulty, and Mrs. Edward Fargo. Miss Margaretta Washington was an artist, whose specialty was medical work. She lived at 214 South Forty-third street with Mrs. Naulty and the two other sisters, Mrs. Fargo, whose maiden name was Louise Washington, the widow of the for-

mer rector of Christ Church, died here on December 13. She shared an apartment with Miss Rebecca Washington at the Clinton.

CROSSING DELAWARE CALLED HARD AS EVER

George Washington, Impersonated by Rowe Stewart, Sees Conditions Very Little Improved

It is disappointing, according to "George Washington," that after these many years there are facilities for crossing the Delaware River to and from Philadelphia little

better than those which existed when

made his historic crossing of the river. Rowe Stewart, appearing as Washington, delivered this message at the Novelty Entertainment of the Walnut Street Business Men's Association, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel last night. He was applauded. Former Congressman J. Washington Lane, whose birthday falls on the same date as Washington's, who also spoke, was presented with a basket of flowers. A grand musical, with powdered wigs and hoop-skirts of 1776, was danced by Margaret Wals, Mildred Wals, Mary Martin, Margaret Cook, Ethel Derringer, Velma Swinburn, Clement Darby, John B. Kane, David Hamilton, Walter L. Murphy, Clark Madsen and Charles Murray.

The Cook of a Queen



MRS. MARY A. WILSON

The Queen of Cooks

NEXT week the Public Ledger will inaugurate the most practical and helpful home course in domestic science ever presented by a daily newspaper.

Mrs. M. A. Wilson, for five years chef to Queen Victoria and now dietitian at the Children's Homeopathic Hospital, will conduct the course.

Through her articles the Public Ledger will place within the reach of every housewife, in simplified manner, the expert knowledge and wide experience of a cook who has achieved an amazing success as chef to a Queen and as dietitian to a children's hospital.

The value of an efficient kitchen routine can scarcely be overestimated in these days of rising food costs, and every homemaker will appreciate Mrs. Wilson's thousand and one aids to the solution of perplexing problems arising daily in the domestic routine.

Read the first article in the Public Ledger on Tuesday, February 27.

PUBLIC LEDGER

Just Out FRANCES HODGSON BURNETT'S New Novel

The White People

The Greatest Question in the World—

That is the subject of Mrs. Burnett's new book. Her spiritual message will travel quickly to the heart of the multitudes who are waiting eagerly everywhere for a new word that will testify to the nearness—and the beauty—of the spirit life, that will give

in its way an answer to the question—"Do the dead yet live?" It is a book which widens the horizon of the soul. "What does it matter if this seems a strange story? To some it will mean something; to some it will mean nothing. To those it has a meaning for, it will open wide windows into the light and lift heavy loads," says the book itself.

\$1.20 Net.